

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
JULY 14, 2014
APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS
C14H-1990-0006
Mount Bonnell
3800 Mount Bonnell Road

PROPOSAL

Install a new commemorative marker at the base of the staircase for Mount Bonnell.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

The applicant proposes the installation of a new granite marker at the base of the stairs going up Mount Bonnell from the parking lot. The proposed marker will be black and white granite, and will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the donation of the park by the Covert Family to Travis County, and will contain inscriptions reciting the anniversary of the gift of the park by the Covert family in memory of Frank Covert, Sr. The granite section of the marker will be approximately 2' – 7 1/8" tall 5' – 8 1/2" wide and 10 3/8" wide. The granite will have a matte face and sides and boulder finish on the top and back. It will follow the shape of Mount Bonnell. The granite section will set on a plinth with a cast stone top. The plinth will be approximately 2 feet tall, have the same width as the granite section of the marker, and will contain inscriptions detailing the history of the donations of the park to the people of Austin and Travis County.

STANDARDS FOR REVIEW

The Commission's Standards for Review of applications for Certificates of Appropriateness include:

- Do not destroy the distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, or site and its environment. Avoid the removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features.
- Recognize all buildings, structures, and sites as products of their own time. Do not construct alterations which have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance.
- Repair, rather than replace deteriorated architectural features wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Base the repair or replacement of missing architectural features on accurate duplications of features, substantiated by historical, physical, or pictorial evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other buildings or structures.
- Contemporary design for alterations and additions to existing properties are appropriate when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historic, architectural, or cultural material and such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.
- Construct new additions or alterations to structures in such a manner that if such addition or alteration were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure will be unimpaired.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends approval of this application and thanked the applicants for respecting the historic character of the site.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve as proposed. This is a wonderful addition to the park and staff commends the applications for their diligence, energy, and sensitivity in creating this memorialization of the anniversary of public ownership of this iconic site.